# Higher Priority Project Summaries DRAFT for committee review – 3/14/11

In the following document, projects identified as priorities to be advanced through CMAP's technical assistance program are described. Six projects which are ready for immediate startup are described first. Work on these projects is expected to be underway by April or earlier.

Next, this document lists other priority projects which require some degree of scoping before they begin. For some but not all of these projects, this scoping process will result in CMAP assigning staff to the project. For others, CMAP's role will likely involve scoping projects, identifying and securing funding, and helping the applicant to seek private consultant assistance; in other cases, it will involve identifying another technical assistance provider to lead the project, with CMAP taking a supporting or minor role.

This document does not contain a full description of the local technical assistance program, but the history and background of the program can be found in memos to the CMAP Board for the past several months, including:

- An <u>initial description</u> of the program's intent (December 2010)
- A <u>summary of proposals</u> received during the first call for projects (February 2011)
- A description of the <u>proposal review and prioritization</u> process (March 2011)
- A <u>list and brief explanation</u> of the priority projects (March 2011)

Please also note that extensive coordination with other technical assistance partners – such as the RTA, MPC, CNT, County planning departments, and many others – is expected on many projects listed in this document. These are not specified in the project descriptions below (unless the project is already underway) but will be identified and reported as project scoping progresses.

# Projects for immediate startup

# **Blue Island**

In 2005, the City of Blue Island worked with CNT to create the Blue Island Plan for Economic Development, a redevelopment plan focusing on local transit- & cargo-oriented development opportunities. The City produced a limited comprehensive plan in 1981, however, it currently relies on the economic development plan as the City's comprehensive plan, with significant gaps and limitations in scope and geographic coverage. The City requests CMAP assistance to draft a comprehensive plan based on the priorities set forth in the Blue Island Plan and including the following elements: Land Use; Natural Resources/Sustainability (including brownfields); Transportation; Utilities & Community Facilities; Economic Development; Housing; and Arts & Culture. Blue Island would also like CMAP to assist with public

participation and facilitation of relevant comprehensive planning activities at Blue Island Plan Commission meetings.

# Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development

The City of Chicago seeks assistance with implementation of its "Green and Healthy Chicago" plan intended to initiate sustainable reinvestment and redevelopment in the low- and moderate-income neighborhoods of Greater Englewood and Woodlawn/Washington Park. This project includes a range of tasks including land use and transportation analysis, community outreach and involvement (provided largely by the Chicago chapter of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)), and the development of plans and policy recommendations. LISC, a strong partner/co-applicant, has been working in these neighborhoods for a number of years and helped create neighborhood Quality of Life Plans that will form the foundation for this project. Land use plans and policy recommendations generated through this project will be submitted to the Chicago Plan Commission for approval and implementation via zoning changes, land acquisition, and infrastructure and other investments. This priority project may also incorporate or be coordinated with other proposed assistance projects in the same geographic area, including the Bronzeville Alliance, Bronzeville Community Development Partnership, and Centers for New Horizons projects; other proposed citywide projects will also be focused in this geographic area during the first year of CMAP's technical assistance program.

#### Lake Zurich

The Village of Lake Zurich, in conjunction with MPC and CNT, intends to examine current and future water supply and demand, evaluate options and opportunities for water conservation, and develop approaches for the effective management of wastewater and stormwater generated by the Village. CMAP staff with expertise related to water will be providing technical assistance to this project. A fuller description of this project will be posted to CMAP's website during the week of March 14.

#### **Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**

MMC and MPC are continuing to expand the "Homes for a Changing Region" project which analyzes housing supply and demand. The current target is south suburban communities including Hazel Crest, Lansing, Olympia Fields, and Park Forest. Central partners include selected communities as well as SSMMA and its affiliates. CMAP has already begun work on this project. A fuller description of this project will be posted to CMAP's website during the week of March 14.

# **West Cook Housing Collaborative**

The West Cook County Housing Collaborative requested assistance with the advancement of housing strategies that encompass all five municipal members (Berwyn, Bellwood, Forest Park, Maywood, and Oak Park). A first step in this work will include the expansion of the "Homes for a Changing Region" project to these communities. Assistance was also requested in looking at existing and potential affordable housing and economic development around transit centers within these five municipalities. The plan will seek to create tools, programs and ordinances

that could improve and increase affordable housing options and economic development around the five transit centers and at the same time will also develop a strategy that will identify opportunities to conserve energy; to conserve natural resources, including water; and to provide for healthy indoor environments. The plan will identify these opportunities at a building level, for both the affordable housing and the commercial facilities, and at an infrastructure level for the areas surrounding the transit centers. CMAP has specifically been asked to assist with demographic analysis; comparative review of zoning ordinances near TOD sites; supply and demand analysis for affordable housing, retail, business services and social services; and public planning outreach with community stakeholders (e.g., meetings, charrettes, surveys).

# Will County

Will County's Land Use Department requested staff assistance for the creation of a sub-area plan, including implementation, for the unincorporated Fairmont area. Located between the cities of Lockport and Joliet, much of the Fairmont area was platted and developed during the 1920s. Despite its early growth, it was never annexed by an adjacent community, or grew large enough to incorporate on its own. As a result the county has maintained its land use regulatory authority for the area. The county seeks assistance in five areas: future land use development; infrastructure improvements; economic development; community synergy; and public areas and culture.

# Other priority projects requiring further scoping

#### Addison

The Village of Addison has requested assistance with the creation of new comprehensive plan, to replace the existing one which was adopted in 1992. In particular, the Village would like to focus on the numerous unincorporated areas lying within and on it borders, as well as residential and industrial tear downs. Addison specifically requested assistance from CMAP in developing innovative means of engaging public participation in the preparation of the new comprehensive plan.

# Algonquin

The Village of Algonquin has requested assistance with an analysis of land use opportunities presented by the planned enhancements to a four mile segment of Illinois Route 31 (commonly referred to as the Illinois Route 31 Algonquin Western Bypass) that will skirt the western perimeter of the Village's historic downtown. The Village has asked CMAP to guide the planning process examining new opportunities for land use redevelopment and increased pedestrian/bicycle accessibility downtown. Specifically, the village would like staff assistance studying several different inter-related issues, such as: analysis of the number of housing units required to sustain and/or expand the existing commercial footprint; identification of underutilized properties that are prime for redevelopment into new mixed-use or neo-traditional planned developments; recommendations for expanding the village's downtown streetscape enhancement plans to integrate new pedestrian-friendly amenities for the existing segment of the IL Route 31 corridor that bisects Downtown Algonquin; and evaluation of opportunities for maximizing access to and connectivity between the Prairie Trail Bike Path and historic Towne Park.

#### Alsip

The Village of Alsip has requested CMAP assistance to revise its outdated zoning ordinance and, more specifically, to modify zoning to support development of Pulaski Avenue as its "downtown" area. This follows a Pulaski Avenue street study recommending zoning changes to support a more user-friendly shopping district. CMAP tasks may include an investigation of the current zoning ordinance and existing community conditions, recommendations as to whether a complete overhaul or more limited modifications to the zoning ordinance are necessary, and draft content based on that determination.

#### Antioch

The Village of Antioch has requested assistance to develop a corridor plan, aimed at forming an East to West Regional Greenbelt connection and "lifestyle corridor" through the Village, from the Chain of Lakes to the Des Plaines River and Millennium Trail systems, including connecting the natural amenities of the area with the Village's Metra station. Accomplished through the restoration of the Sequoit Creek and facility enhancements to existing open space and pedestrian infrastructure, this corridor planning effort is intended to supplement the Village's

Comprehensive Plan and establish the basis for the future capital project implementation, through the study and adoption of strategy that outlines regulatory and financial feasibility and limitations, preliminary design matters, and scoping analysis. The Village is currently in the process of completing adoption of a Transit Implementation Study and Form Based Code. The corridor plan will complement these recent efforts, by further exploring the opportunities and feasibility of mixing urbanized TOD's with recreation, along with non-motorized transportation modes and ecotourism in growing exurban communities.

#### Bensenville

The Village of Bensenville has requested assistance with three stormwater projects, which CMAP has identified, as a group, as priorities to be pursued through the program. The first project involves working with the in-house engineering technician to prepare a comprehensive stormwater management plan for non-roadway stormwater improvement initiatives. The second would evaluate the feasibility of incorporating a stormwater utility within the Village; specific activities may include researching potential funding needs, identifying revenue generating options, calculating impervious areas (on residential, commercial and industrial properties), recommending a potential implementation program, and public outreach. The third project involves data conversion for future engineering and system studies. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute. CMAP will seek to coordinate this with the neighboring stormwater project in Wood Dale.

# Berwyn

In order to accommodate growth and guide development and reinvestment appropriate to this inner ring suburb, the City of Berwyn requests assistance to update its 1993 comprehensive plan as well as its ordinances and regulations for consistency with City goals, infill development pressures, economic realities, design guidelines, and corridor/subarea plans. Without proper guidance, the City risks losing the characteristics that make it highly livable: compact, mixed-use, walkable, and transit-accessible. The updated comprehensive plan should accommodate adopted corridor plans completed over the past few years, including Form-Based Codes, as well as pedestrian and bicycle plans that are currently in development.

#### **Bronzeville Alliance**

The Bronzeville area, once the center of commerce and culture for Black Chicago, experienced significant dislocation and disinvestment between 1950 and 2000, but is rebounding with leadership from committed residents, community organizations, business owners, and elected officials. The Bronzeville Alliance, a group of Bronzeville residents and organizations committed to the economic, social, and cultural redevelopment of this historic community, is seeking assistance with information gathering; survey instrument development, delivery, and analysis; and retail corridor planning assistance. These tasks are intended to support the Bronzeville Alliance's Bronzeville Retail Initiative that facilitates development of vibrant, walkable retail corridors that serve residents' needs, provide local employment and business ownership opportunities, and focus investment around CTA Green line access points. The

Bronzeville Alliance has already facilitated several community forums to discuss five keystone initiatives: crime and grime; education and training; green jobs, health, and the environment; housing; and retail, hospitality, tourism, and transportation. Numerous partners, including local Aldermen, the City of Chicago, MPC, funders, and other local organizations devoted to neighborhood revitalization are involved with this effort. CMAP will assist with this project if it can be undertaken in conjunction with the Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development project described earlier.

# **Bronzeville Community Development Partnership**

The Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (BCDP) requests CMAP assistance for data, information and research, and geographic maps to complete the National Heritage Area Feasibility Study, the next step of the designation process for the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area. Congressman Bobby Rush, Chicago Community Development & Landmarks Commission, Cook County, and the National Park Service are partners in this coordinated, community-wide strategy to preserve the rich history of the Great Migration and the cultural renaissance it engendered, and to make it relevant to and accessible by current and future generations. This project will help the BCDP make the case that Black Metropolis is suitable and feasible for federal designation as a National Heritage Area, promote the establishment of a regionally-significant national treasure and tourist destination. CMAP will assist with this project if it can be undertaken in conjunction with the Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development project described earlier.

# **Campton Hills**

The Village of Campton Hills, one of Illinois's newest municipalities, has requested assistance in replacing its comprehensive plan and ordinances. The Village has based its comprehensive plan largely on the Campton Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan, but has also adopted the Kane County 2030 Plan as its official Comprehensive Plan and Land Use map, except where the Village Comprehensive Plan provides greater clarification or detail—an arrangement that yields inconsistencies between the two plans and which is difficult for the Planning Commission to use and interpret. To create a single, unified comprehensive plan for Campton Hills, the Village has identified two phases of work, and has asked CMAP to first provide oversight, coordination, research, writing and staff assistance to the volunteer committees responsible for writing the plan, and to then develop zoning and subdivision codes, formed around the Village's green infrastructure system, to implement the plan.

## Carpentersville

The Village of Carpentersville has requested assistance with the creation of an "action plan" for the Village's historic Old Town area, which has many of the original buildings that housed industrial companies founded in the late 1800's. Several of these buildings are being rehabbed for light industrial use. There is excitement and discussion about what the Old Town area can become. Public investment has been made with the reconstruction of the Main Street bridge that crosses the river, new water and sewer lines along Main Street, and a traffic study to understand what the current and future needs are. There are challenges as well, including sites

with potential contamination, lack of parking for future development, and a large and unsightly ComEd substation. In developing an action plan for the Old Town area, the Village seeks CMAP's assistance to conduct a parking study, conduct a Brownfield inventory, and identify potential recreational possibilities.

#### **Centers for New Horizons**

CNH and its partners are working together to improve the community food and recreational environment to improve overall community health and reduce racial disparities. CNH seeks CMAP assistance to gather baseline data, engage the community, map the food and recreation environment, identify areas where fresh foods and active play are accessible, and develop a quality index for stores, restaurants, schools, etc. that visually displays the quantity, quality, and availability of fresh foods vs. "junk foods." This effort will include training and involving students and residents in data collection, surveying, and sampling within their community. These efforts will feed into a set of stakeholder-derived action strategies for addressing healthy food disparities and achieving food access and health goals in Bronzeville. CMAP will assist with this project if it can be undertaken in conjunction with the Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development project described earlier.

# **Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs**

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) would like to create a comprehensive and regional 21st Century Chicagoland Cultural Plan (CCCP), as a follow up to the Chicago Cultural Plan of 1986 and updated in 2006. The plan is intended to strengthen the regional economy and enhance its livability by increasing access to and participation in the arts and building partnerships between arts organizations, creative industries, and other economic industries. In order to achieve this goal, neighborhoods, communities, and organizations need minimum standards for including and integrating arts and cultural considerations in discussions of housing, land use, environment, transportation, and economic development policies. In the first year of technical assistance, CMAP will assist with elements of this project if they can be focused in the Great Englewood, Woodlawn, and Washington Park community areas.

# **Chicago Department of Environment**

The Chicago Department of Environment submitted two requests for assistance. The first requests assistance with the implementation of the 2008 Chicago Climate Action Plan, the City of Chicago's plan to reduce the effects of and prepare for climate change, specifically focusing on advancing the Adaptation strategy of the plan. The second request involves advancing green infrastructure in the city, and will need to be closely coordinated with the Department of Housing and Economic Development. In the first year of technical assistance, CMAP will assist with both of these projects if they can be focused in the Great Englewood, Woodlawn, and Washington Park community areas.

# **Chicago Housing Authority**

The Chicago Housing Authority requests CMAP's assistance to coordinate key stakeholders and create transit oriented development, mixed-income, and LEED-ND oriented plans and guidelines intended to modernize the public housing community of the 1950-era LeClaire Courts near Midway Airport. CMAP has been requested to provide coordination, financial needs analysis, ordinance and zoning recommendations, and sustainability and green Best Management Practice recommendations. To date no CHA development has been designed to incorporate LEED-ND principles, or received LEED-ND certification, so this project has the potential to be a first for the CHA and a model for future CHA projects. However, one expected element of this project – a new train station along the Heritage Corridor rail line – is not expected to be able to be accomplished in the short term, and CMAP will work with the CHA to undertake the project without this element.

# **Des Plaines**

The City of Des Plaines is interested in CMAP assistance for several related projects described further below. CMAP will be meeting with the City to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

- Explore the feasibility of establishing a new Metra station on the North Central line at
  Oakton Street as a means to stimulate Transit Oriented Development that may include a
  mix of uses, multi-family housing, and a potential new LEED ND neighborhood that
  draws on the City's new form-based zoning ordinance.
- Design assistance for streetscape improvements and shared parking around Metra stations including new trees, paving, lighting, street furniture, underground overhead utility lines, painted crosswalks, landscaping and signage with a consistent look and feel.
- Financial analysis, including assessment of land values and development potential of potential development sites, near the Downtown Des Plaines Metra Station.

#### **Developing Communities Project**

The Developing Communities Project's Red Line Oversight Committee (ROC), in the Greater Roseland Community Area, has requested CMAP assistance to advance the campaign to extend the CTA Red Line to the 130<sup>th</sup> Street on the far south side. This project will build on past work in which DCP partnered with CMAP, MPC, and CNT to conduct a TOD Visioning Session in the community. CMAP will work closely with CTA to determine the most appropriate role for CMAP in the project.

# **DuPage County**

DuPage County has requested assistance with the update of its Unincorporated Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Since the plan was adopted in 1990, DuPage County has become increasingly urbanized, more ethnically and racially diverse, and has become an important economic engine for the region with a broadly diversified jobs market. In addition, as a result of annexations by municipalities, both the land area and the population of unincorporated DuPage County have been slowly decreasing over the years. With all of these changes over the past two decades, an

update of the plan is needed. Goals and objectives of the plan update include promoting collaboration between the County and municipalities, identifying redevelopment opportunities (especially in "more mature areas of the County"), furthering transit-supportive planning, developing a more efficient jobs-housing balance, and focusing on energy and natural resource conservation.

#### Elburn

The Village of Elburn is seeking assistance with an update to its comprehensive plan, known the Land Use Plan and Development Guide, which was developed in 1990. While this plan has served Elburn well, the Village's population has quadrupled over the past twenty years. The Village would like to take advantage of this time when development is slow to evaluate the plans for the future of the community. Through the update of its comprehensive plan, the Village seeks to encourage "moderate and well-balanced growth," while also preserving the "rural characteristic" and "small town atmosphere" vital to Elburn's identity and quality of life.

# Elgin

The City of Elgin has requested assistance with the creation of a corridor plan for Dundee Avenue, focused on development and redevelopment of land along a primary gateway into the city, connecting I-90 to downtown Elgin (Kimball Street). In general, the plan should "take advantage of the area's natural amenities, mitigate its inherent weaknesses, and plan in tandem with local demographic characteristics and economic conditions." It should "provide direction on the character and quality of the Dundee Avenue right-of-way as well as specific elements of the built environment," relying on 'complete street' and 'context sensitive' philosophies "to ensure that all necessary elements of transportation (pedestrian, bicycle, car, and bus) are accommodated in an aesthetically pleasing environment." Design guidelines and an overlay zoning district ordinance are expected products.

#### **Elmwood Park**

The Village of Elmwood Park has requested assistance to update its Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 1995. While the current Plan addresses issues of livability, it lacks detail and does not take into consideration local and regional goals and objectives. Specifically, the Village's current Plan does not reflect the 2006 Elmwood Park Station Area Plan or the goals of GO TO 2040. Further, ordinances, regulations and zoning decisions have not been closely reviewed for inconsistences with current local and regional goals. In addition to updating its Comprehensive Plan the Village has requested training to help build local planning capacity so as to not rely as heavily in the future on external vendors. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### **Evanston**

The City of Evanston has requested assistance for a number of projects. Among these, the Water Conservation Plan Development project has been identified as a priority to be pursued through the LTA program. The City desires to develop and implement a comprehensive water conservation plan that balances the City's revenue stream, water and sewer rate structure, and

the environmental benefits of water efficiency. The City is interested in working with CMAP to leverage the work completed under the Water 2050 plan and create a specific plan to implement the next phase of water conservation in the community.

#### Fox Lake

The Village of Fox Lake requested assistance for several projects, including a comprehensive plan review, assistance with green ordinance development, a parking study, development of floodplain strategies, and specific plans for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, public parks, municipal piers, and stormwater. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### **Hanover Park**

Hanover Park submitted three projects which are priorities for advancement through the local technical assistance program. First, in an effort to evaluate and address the emerging workforce needs of its residents, the Village has been collaborating with Harper College, College of DuPage, and Elgin Community College to establish an Illinois workNet Career Center in Hanover Park. With these institutions as partners, Hanover Park would like assistance to conduct an Employer Needs Assessment study, and create a Hanover Park workNet Center Accessibility and Marketing Plan. Second, the Village is also requesting assistance with the development of an Infill Redevelopment Plan, Retail Market Study, Small Business Assistance Program, and Multi-Cultural Corridor Strategy focused on Irving Park Road, intending not only to revitalize a key commercial corridor, but to capitalize on the unique concentration of Latino and Asian businesses in the area. Third, the Village is seeking assistance with the development of a Foreclosure Response Plan or a Housing Stabilization Funding Program. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### **Hazel Crest**

The Village of Hazel Crest has requested assistance in updating its current Zoning Ordinance and its Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)/Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Plan. The Village seeks to have the zoning ordinance comply with the Village's recently completed Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 2007. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute. This project will build upon the work and results of the ongoing "Homes for the Changing Region" program underway in the Village.

#### **Joliet**

Joliet's request for assistance with land use planning and re-development of the Old Joliet Prison Site and surrounding area has been identified as a priority project. The Prison, closed in 2006, occupies approximately 120 acres of land about three miles northeast of downtown Joliet. The planning and re-development of the site has been pondered by a local task force since 2007. However, what has yet been addressed is the re-connection of this isolated property back into the community, especially the re-alignment of Woodruff Road. The request for assistance

included engaging the stakeholders and amending the plan to not only include the obvious recreational use of the old prison, but also link the land and community back together, either with the extension of bike path trails or other land development and the possible re-route of Woodruff Road.

# **Justice**

The Village of Justice has requested assistance in updating its current Comprehensive Plan that is considered by Village staff to be a "zoning only" document that lacks comprehensive plan components such as a vision, goals and objectives, plans and policies, and implementation strategies. One of the issues for the Village is that they have been unsuccessful in obtaining grants to acquire and develop parks and open space due to their lack of a complete comprehensive plan. The Village of Justice is working on a balanced budget with no financial capacity to undertake this project without assistance. An updated Plan could be a catalyst for the Village to obtain future funds.

# **Kane County**

Kane County requested assistance with two projects, and both are considered priorities. First, the Kane County Department of Transportation requested staff assistance to facilitate and execute the short term items included in Kane County's Long Range Transit Plan's Implementation Action Plan. The Long Range Transit Plan, scheduled to be considered for adoption by the County Board in March or April 2011, seeks to establish a closer relationship between land use and transportation in the county, and explore way to make transit a more viable option for current and future residents. The second project involves inventorying parcels within municipal boundaries that could be good candidates for local food production.

## **Lake County**

Lake County's Department of Planning, Building and Development has requested staff assistance to gather data and information on sustainable development best practices for an update to its Regional Framework Plan. While the Plan contains a number of sustainable policies, there have been significant advances in sustainable practices since then. With the County Board's call to evaluate and promote sustainable land use policies, the Regional Framework Plan will be updated with an addendum on sustainable land use and development strategies. Topics that will be explored through this effort include sustainable land use and development, green building techniques, water supply and usage, and renewable energy.

## Lakemoor

Lakemoor, a community that has more than doubled its population in the past decade, will receive staff assistance to rewrite its zoning ordinance and review and provide limited updates to its comprehensive plan. The growth pressures placed on the community over the last ten years have led Village leaders to shift their emphasis to improving livability for current and future residents, and they would like to review and adopt policies addressing new approaches to residential, commercial and industrial development. In addition, the Village's position at the western end of the planned IL 120 improvements makes this project a priority.

# Lansing

The Village of Lansing has requested assistance to update their Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 1995. The Village seeks to have CMAP conduct an initial review of the document to suggest recommended changes to bring the plan into the current standard for comprehensive plans. The Village does not anticipate an update of the entire document, but it does anticipate smaller section updates. This project will build upon the work and results of the ongoing "Homes for the Changing Region" program underway in the Village.

# **Liberty Prairie Conservancy**

The Liberty Prairie Conservancy and its diverse partners requested assistance from CMAP to grow the emerging sustainable local food system of Lake County. The Conservancy's approach is two-pronged. One thrust of the project will be undertaking a variety of countywide planning and research efforts that will accelerate the creation of a large-scale sustainable local food economy in Lake County. The other thrust will be integrating sustainable local food production in a model planning area in central Lake County – the Liberty Prairie Reserve.

# Lynwood

The Village of Lynwood seeks assistance to update their current Comprehensive Plan that was completed in 1970 to include policies and recommendations that accommodate current and future needs. Specifically, the Village would like to update its land use policies to lessen potential negative effects of growth while continuing to provide opportunities and quality services in the community. The plan update will also address several key upcoming transportation projects that will likely impact the future of Lynwood.

#### Maywood

The Village of Maywood requested assistance for several projects, described further below. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

- Update of the Maywood Station Area Plan The Village would like to have assistance in updating the 2004 Maywood Station Area Plan. Specifically the Village is seeking guidance in updating and implementing the plan in conjunction with a variety of stakeholders including Metra, Union Pacific, Pace, CTA, and the library. We would like to invite the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to participate in the process of updating the Plan.
- Commercial Corridors Study The Village's current Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2008. The Village is interested in obtaining assistance to evaluate and prepare an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Village's key commercial corridors: Roosevelt Road, 1st Avenue, and Madison Street. The Village and Loyola Hospital are interested in working together to make this area a true gateway.
- Foreclosed Housing Plan The Village currently has a high foreclosure rate and is interested in finding new ways to address this issue. The Village would like specific

- guidance concerning what should be done with the 100+ residential properties that the Village owns and maintains.
- Subarea Plan The last large redevelopment site in the Village is located along I-290 and 1st Avenue. The Village is seeking guidance in working with Com Ed, and adjacent property owners including Cook County, IDOT, and the RTA to coordinate and plan for the I-290 and 1st Avenue interchange expansion, a possible Blue Line extension, brownfield remediation and possible relocation of businesses.

# **McHenry County**

McHenry County requested assistance in developing a sub-area plan for unincorporated areas along major water bodies, which include some of McHenry County's oldest unincorporated subdivisions. Many of these areas are located in flood hazard areas, feature small lots that are not consistent with current zoning districts, and rely on individual well and septic systems. The County hopes to develop a special area plan for these areas with the following goals:

- Implement elements of the recently adopted 2030 comprehensive plan, including encouraging infill, preserving the county's character, promoting compact and contiguous growth, promoting a mix of housing types, and establishing greenways;
- Guide the revision of the county's development regulations into a unified development ordinance;
- Promote community development in areas that benefit the county's workforce;
- And expand opportunities for open space.

#### Midlothian

The Village of Midlothian has requested assistance for several projects, described further below. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

- TOD Implementation The Village is seeking assistance in implementing its Midlothian Village Center Enhancement Plan (Phase 1 2005, Phase 2 2008). We would like to invite the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) to participate in the process.
- Comprehensive Plan Update The Village is seeking assistance in updating its 2001
  Comprehensive Plan. The Village would also like the Plan to include the
  recommendations of the Village Center Enhancement Plan, as well as more of a focus
  upon pedestrian and bicycle circulation. The Village is interested in working with the
  Midlothian Park District to undertake this project.
- Hazard Mitigation Plan The Village of Midlothian is also requesting guidance in the
  creation of a hazard mitigation plan to resolve flooding issues in partnership with the
  Village of Tinley Park and the City of Oak Forest. A goal of the Village is to create a
  document that allows communities to be eligible to apply for grant funding for capital
  improvements or acquisition of property to resolve flooding issues.

#### **Morton Grove**

The Village of Morton Grove has requested assistance in creating an Industrial Areas Plan. As a built-out community the Village is interested in creating a plan that revitalizes its industrial and commercial areas to strengthen the tax base and generate revenue. The Village's existing 1999 Comprehensive Plan includes industrial areas policies; however, since 1999 some industrial properties have been converted to non-industrial uses. The Village believes that a new plan is necessary to determine the appropriate scale and desired locations for industrial properties in the Village.

#### **New Lenox**

Southwest suburban New Lenox will receive staff assistance to create a detailed plan for its portion of the U.S. Route 30 corridor. Lacking a traditional downtown, New Lenox's stretch of Route 30 functions as the commercial and institutional core of the community. However, because of its historical development over the last 50 years as an auto-centric concentration of strip centers featuring numerous curb cuts and little landscaping, further study is required to make the corridor more pedestrian friendly and aesthetically appealing. The Village wishes to identify opportunities to improve traffic flow, increase pedestrian access, reduce the number of curb cuts, and improve parking lot design and landscaping

#### **Niles**

The Village of Niles is currently in the planning stages of the first Comprehensive Plan in over 100 years. In addition, the Milwaukee Avenue corridor within the Village of Niles was chosen by Pace Suburban Bus for implementation of an Arterial Rapid Transit System. The Village of Niles is seeking planning and economic development assistance once its Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan is complete (expected to be adopted this fall). The Village requests assistance for several projects, described further below. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

- TOD Plan The Village is requesting assistance to create a Transit Oriented
  Development (TOD) Plan in conjunction with a planned Pace Arterial Rapid Transit
  (ART) system along the Milwaukee Avenue corridor from Jefferson Park CTA to Golf
  Mill Mall in Niles. A goal of the Village is to ensure that transit oriented development
  (TOD) within the corridor is not an afterthought.
- Codes and Regulations Update The Village of Niles is seeking assistance with updating or "greening" Village Codes and Land Use Regulations to be consistent with the Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan.
- Economic Development Study The Village is requesting assistance with economic development planning to encourage redevelopment and strengthening of business corridors and the industrial area.

## Norridge

The Village of Norridge is seeking planning assistance for a number of projects. The Village is interested in preparing its first Comprehensive Plan, updating its Zoning Ordinance, and preparing a Village Storm Water Management Plan. Currently the Village has not adopted any

Village-wide Comprehensive Plan and is seeking assistance to prepare a document that will help guide the community moving forward. The Village's zoning ordinance is outdated and needs improvements made specifically to the definitions, parking, and signage requirements sections. A Storm Water Management Plan would assist the Village in dealing with localized flooding during heavy rains. CMAP will be pursue the comprehensive plan element of this project first, and will work with the Village to scope the other projects for potential in future years.

#### Northlake

The City of Northlake is seeking assistance to update its Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in 1995. Updating the Plan will provide the City with the opportunity to include recent planning principles such as the inclusion of complete streets, the support of a variety of transportation options, and the encouragement of mixed-use developments. The City of Northlake is looking to incorporate the results of the recent "Homes for a Changing Region" program that included the City. The City believes that it is important to update its Comprehensive Plan, not just to guide future development and land use decisions, but to allow for the City to be competitive when applying for future funding assistance.

# Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative

The Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative (NWSHC) is a multijurisdictional organization including the villages of Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Mount Prospect and Palatine, and the City of Rolling Meadows. NWSHC requested assistance in conducting the "Homes for a Changing Region" process with its member communities. The Collaborative also requested assistance in undertaking an area multi-family foreclosure analysis, multi-family housing market study and developing a multi-family preservation plan.

## Oak Lawn

The Village of Oak Lawn requested assistance with multiple projects, including updating its Comprehensive Plan, creating a village-wide water conservation plan, and expanding the existing TOD to include the Oak Lawn Metra Station, Town Center Mixed-Use Development and Village Green. In addition to incorporating their bicycle/pedestrian plan, previously developed with the Active Transportation Alliance, the Village plans to incorporate "green" elements proposed by their Green Team. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### Oak Park

The Village of Oak Park plans to create a comprehensive village-wide water conservation plan that encourages methods for efficient use of water for different building types and uses. In addition to supporting the policies, practices, and investment strategies described in the GO TO 2040 and Water 2050 plans, the proposed water conservation plan will take into consideration its economic impact on Oak Park's low-to-moderate income families.

# Olympia Fields

The Village of Olympia Fields plans to update their 1997 Comprehensive Plan to address issues such as sustainability, housing diversification, community facility planning, economic development and implementation. The update will also address and incorporate the results of the Village's recent sub-area planning activities, including a sub-area plan for the 203rd Street Metra Station. This project will build upon the work and results of the ongoing "Homes for the Changing Region" program underway in the Village.

# **Openlands**

Openlands, a regional advocate for open space preservation, has requested CMAP assistance to assess the City of Chicago's progress in achieving its stated goal (CitySpace Open Space Plan for Chicago, 1988) of providing two acres of public open space per 1000 residents, as well as elimination of all unserved areas. This analysis, as proposed, will lead to improved strategies and geographic focus for City of Chicago and other organizations' parks and open space efforts. It will also result in an update to the City's data, maps, and figures to illustrate a more current state of the city's parks and open space and opportunities for preserving open space. CMAP will assist with this project if it can be focused in the Greater Englewood and Woodlawn / Washington Park neighborhoods as part of the Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development priority project; a citywide update of progress toward this goal is already planned to be undertaken by the Department of Housing and Economic Development.

## **Orland Park**

The Village of Orland Park plans to develop a comprehensive Water Resource Code based on the CMAP Model Water Conservation Code. This update will include stormwater management, waste water system and water works codes emphasizing water conservation, use efficiency and quality improvement. Ultimately the developed Water Resource Code will be adopted as part of the Village's Land Development Code.

#### **Palos Park**

The Village of Palos Park requested assistance in several areas. First, the Village plans to conduct stormwater management studies in 4 defined areas experiencing moderate to severe flooding multiple times each year. The Village also plans to update their Comprehensive Plan addressing the potential annexation of over 1,400 acres of unincorporated lands adjacent to and west of the Village. The comprehensive planning process will include an inventory of these unincorporated lands, develop strategies for natural resource conservation, define commercial corridor initiatives and access policies for the two strategic regional corridors (SRA), identify and connect regional bike trail routes, conduct fiscal impact studies, coordinate multijurisdictional public facility planning, define innovative planned development standards, and develop a Capital Improvement Plan in preparation of the annexation and development of the subject unincorporated area. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### **Park Forest**

The Village of Park Forest plans to develop a Sustainability Master Plan that is consistent with the recommendations in the Livable Communities element of GO TO 2040 plan. The Sustainability Master Plan will establish comprehensive measures by which the Village can transform Park Forest from an aging suburb into a model, sustainable community. Elements of this project will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- An audit of the Village's existing development regulations as they may or may not address best practice stormwater management regulations, green infrastructure development standards, and affordable energy efficient building codes;
- Development of a new capital improvement plan that enhances the Village's relationship with the natural environment;
- Provide recommendations for a home remodeling program that provides guidance in methods of improving home resource efficiency;
- Provide recommendations to transform the Village's Health Department so that it can establish programs and services promoting healthier lifestyles and sustainable living practices within the community and region; and
- Provide recommendations for policies and procedures for allowing use of vacant lands for community gardens, neighborhood play parks, and other sustainable, interim uses.

#### **Richton Park**

The Village of Richton Park requested assistance for several projects. These included an update their 2005 Comprehensive Plan and 1991 Zoning Code to develop green development, neighborhood revitalization, transit-oriented development, infrastructure, transportation, education, economic development, annexation practices and standards. The Village plans to also develop neighborhood revitalization plans that address negative physical and social changes experience in several village neighborhoods. Lastly the Village will be seeking funding and developing park amenity maintenance and enhancement programs as recommended by the Richton Park Master Park Plan. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### Riverdale

The Village of Riverdale requested assistance for several projects including a sub-area comprehensive plan establishing strategies for the redevelopment of waterfront property southeast side of Halsted and the Cal Sag Chanel; an update their potable water and sewer system management policies; and a plan addressing housing needs, section 8 initiatives and the need to establish housing programs to improve community housing stock. CMAP will be meeting with the Village to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### Riverside

The Village of Riverside plans to develop a Central Business District (CBD) plan formulating a vision and identifying development strategies for improving the function and character of the Village's downtown. The plan would comprehensively address issues the downtown's role

within the regional and local marketplace, land use priorities, pedestrian access and the community's relationship with its downtown train station.

# **Round Lake Heights**

The small village of Round Lake Heights, located in northwestern Lake County, has been recommended as a high priority project for the update of its comprehensive plan (last updated in 1983). Incorporated as a Village in 1960, Round Lake Heights was established as a collection of disparate subdivisions and has been seeking to develop a more comprehensive identity for much of its history. The Village's Comprehensive Plan, completed in 1983, is outdated. Staff assistance in this effort will allow the Village to begin employing new practices and utilize new regulatory controls that will lead to improved livability.

# South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) recently received grants from HUD under the Sustainable Communities Challenge Grant program, RTA and Cook County for brownfield cargo oriented development (COD) and transportation oriented developments (TOD) planning, land acquisition and property management; from IDOT for economic growth planning and workforce development for Logistics Park Calumet; Cook County Public Health Department to attract new development through updating transportation oriented development building regulations; DCEO under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program for building code official training in implementing new energy codes and streamline development review processes. SSMMA has requested CMAP assistance on multiple projects supporting these grants, including:

- Perform economic impact and return-on-investment analyses for multiple TOD and COD projects, and develop TOD and COD design standards addressing stormwater management, resource management and use of renewable energy.
- Prepare a comprehensive development plan for Logistics Park Calumet addressing truck traffic circulation to and from the CN terminal and the generated logistics and industrial centers. Also, prepare a workforce development plan for Logistics Park Calumet and the resulting expanded local economy.
- Develop recommendations for building, energy efficiency, zoning, design, and smart growth standards for TOD development.
- Integrate web-based permit software providing transparency and improved developer access during the development review process.
- Develop a rating system to evaluate investment opportunities for housing, TOD and COD based on financial, social and environmental objectives.
- Establish a GIS Consortium for communities not having GIS mapping capabilities. CMAP will be meeting with SSMMA to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### Waukegan

The City of Waukegan submitted requests for assistance on multiple projects, including: manage the implementation of its 2003 Lakefront-Downtown Master Plan, expand its CDBG-

funded neighborhood revitalization efforts, coordinate the efforts of various agencies and stakeholders in the implementation of the Lake Front and Neighborhood Open Space plan, coordinate economic initiatives with its municipal neighbors, develop a "Green" development demonstration project, update and the City's Comprehensive Plan, complete their comprehensive Zoning Code update with the addition of green standards and the development of a public roll-out strategy, and the coordination and implementation of the Amtrak-Fountain Square Station Study. CMAP will be meeting with the City to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

# West Central Municipal Conference

During 2010, the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) carried out an extensive research and analysis project with the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) in which they evaluated the potential of west Cook transit station areas and bus routes for TOD as well as the potential of industrial land near major freight transportation assets for cargo oriented development (COD). This analysis has identified dozens of TOD and COD opportunities that we will be discussing with our member communities in the coming months. The next steps include:

- Supplement the analyses of CNT and other consultants with additional information and mapping services regarding the WCMC area's demographics, land use, infrastructure, and existing businesses, and use CMAP's Full Circle data collection and maintenance program to conduct deep analyses of selected development sites;
- Conduct charrettes and other active planning processes with community residents and stakeholders;
- Seek the services of professional planners and analysts who can help us resolve specific
  questions in regard to such issues as streetscape design, traffic patterns, zoning codes
  and entitlement processes, choices among development alternatives;
- Conduct financial analyses, including economic impact and ROI projections, for the realization of proposed projects; and
- Collect information and advice that will help WCMC and its communities pursue public and private investment funding to realize its planned projects.

CMAP will be meeting with WCMC to scope these projects and determine where CMAP can best contribute.

#### Westchester

The Village of Westchester requests assistance to create its first comprehensive plan, "to plan for future technology, neighborhoods, public projects, stormwater management, and forest preservation." In 2006, the Village created a strategic plan and many of its goals and objectives outlined by the plan have since been achieved, including updates to its sign and zoning regulations, as well as implementing a sewer evaluation program. The strategic plan will serve as a start and major component of the comprehensive plan.

# **Wood Dale**

The City of Wood Dale requested staff assistance for a review of stormwater management practices and proposed policies. Salt Creek passes through the center of Wood Dale and regularly poses flooding problems for the community. As a result, the City would like assistance related to: 1) Current stormwater management practices and policies; 2) Review of the City of Wood Dale Municipal Code as it pertains to stormwater and suggestion of revisions if necessary; and 3) Identification of large scale solutions. CMAP will seek to coordinate this with the neighboring stormwater project in Bensenville.